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NEW YORK.

MASON & CO., LIMITED.

THE two first auction sales of imported woods were held by Mason & Co., Limited, at Seventh street and East River, in November and December. Some two hundred buyers were in attendance in both cases and the bidding was spirited and the lots well distributed. The conditions of these sales were as follows:

CONDITIONS OF SALE.

The woods to be taken at and where they lie, at the measurement of the inspectors, with all faults and defects.

All woods will be sold, unless otherwise stated at the time of the sale, upon certificate of inspection of Messrs. Constantine & Co.

To be at the purchaser's risk from time of sale, and to be removed at their expense, storage free to the next storage date.

In case of any dispute between two or more bidders the lot so disputed shall be immediately put up again.

The buyers to declare their names and places of business, and to deposit, if required, ten per cent. on the computed value of each lot. All settlements must be made within ten days from date of sale, by cash, less two per cent., or by four months' approved indorsed notes. The company is not responsible for typographical errors in the catalogue.

These sales are entirely legitimate. The wood goes to the highest bidder, except in certain cases where there may be reservation. But so far as Mason & Co. are concerned there is no one who represents them.

Manufacturers attending the January Exposition of the American Furniture Manufacturers will find it to their interest to attend the next sale, which takes place January 10, 1895, at the office of Mason & Co., Seventh street and East River. Lunch will be served prior to the sale, which will take place at 12 noon.

The auction room is a fine building of 100x50 ft.

in size, located right on the lumber wharf. It is finished in yellow pine with rostrum at one end and great open fireplace at the other. Tables fill the center of the room. In the gallery over the fireplace are located the offices of the firm.



SARONY'S LIVING PICTURES, published by A. E. Chasmar & Co., Union Square, New York, is now an established monthly magazine of reproductive art. The December, 1894, issue is a decided advance on the previous issues. The various illustrations are reproductions of photographs from life, being either original studies or reproductions of famous paintings. The Birth of the Pearl, after Sarony; The Odalisque, after Syzender; Aphrodite, after Sarony; A Fairy, after Wagrez; and Magdalene, after Duran, are the gems of the number. Each subject is enriched with considerable treatment from Mr. Sarony's brush, which removes the figures from the plane of bare realism to an ideal atmosphere, as is necessary in a work of this kind.

Mr. C. Howard Walker, in his paper, "Suggestions on the Architecture of Schoolhouses," in the December *Atlantic*, earnestly pleads for more beauty in the American schoolhouse:

"The boy may not feel that his surroundings are anything more to him than a part of the great educational machine that is forming him for future action; if so, the greater pity for a lost opportunity.

"The effect of quiet beauty, of walls growing old gracefully with the soft colors that age en-

hances, of stretches of sward from which vines clamber and cling to projections and spread lovingly over broad surfaces, to gather in swaying masses from stringcourses and label moldings; the intimate, affectionate character of diamond-paned windows and of postern doorways, which seem to court companionship by the very necessity for close contact in passing through them—all is absent from the dry formality of the schoolhouse which we build. Perfected methods of lighting, of providing fresh air and of withdrawing vitiated air, of heating and of plumbing, receive full heed of attention, the needs of association with beauty little or none. This is well enough so far as it goes, but is not productive of pleasant reminiscence of the pupil. He is taught little by his environment; there are no sermons in the stones of his school; there is no subtle influence teaching him by the best of examples, that of the object lesson, to appreciate light and shade and color, and to grow fond of them, so that he looks back upon them with affection, and demands that they enter into his life in after years. It is the stimulation of this desire for good things that is so important and so abiding a quality in the education of a child.

"There are attempts being made to beautify the interiors of schoolrooms by hanging photographs and prints of paintings, sculpture and architecture upon the walls; the walls themselves to be tinted in harmonious and quiet colors. Casts upon pedestals and bas-reliefs used as friezes are also suggested. These are all of value as object lessons; they instruct and influence the pupil's taste and awake an appreciation that would otherwise lie dormant. It is hardly probable, however, that the memory of these will cause strong affection for the places in which they are to be found; certainly not as strong affection as would be felt for the inclosed playground, the columned porch, and the gabled walls of an English school. It is not sufficient to crown a wall with a pleasing cornice, or to space windows in just intervals upon a plain façade in order to have that façade remembered with pleasure."